

February 9, 2006

The Madisonian, Dillon Tribune, and Montana Standard Papers

RE: Application for an Operating Permit Amendment for The Regal Mine in Madison County

Dear Editor:

Please place the following notice in the legal publication section of your newspaper once each week for three consecutive weeks:

Legal Notice

Notice of Application for Amendment to Operating Permit 00013 (pursuant to the Metal Mine Reclamation Act, Section 82-4-342(3), MCA).

Barretts Minerals Inc. (Barretts) of Dillon, MT filed an application on February 3, 2006 for an amendment to Operating Permit 00013 for its Regal Mine from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Environmental Management Bureau in Helena. The Regal Mine is a talc mine located 11 miles southeast of Dillon, MT on the Sweetwater Road in Madison County. Barretts has mined talc from the open pit since 1972. Barretts hauls the ore to its processing plant south of Dillon in Beaverhead County. The existing permit area is 160 acres and the acreage permitted for disturbance is 150 acres.

The applicant seeks approval to develop and reclaim a redesigned waste rock dump. The redesign would result in fewer disturbances for support facilities, explosive storage, and the pit dewatering system. The permit area would expand by 80.7 acres and the permitted disturbance would increase by 34.7 acres. All of the mine operations would be on private lands in Section 2, Township 8 South, Range 7 West and Sections 34 and 35, Township 7 South, Range 7 West.

DEQ is reviewing the application and will be preparing an environmental analysis on the project. Copies of the application can be reviewed by the public at DEQ offices at 1520 E. 6th Ave., in Helena, MT and in the Western Montana College Library in Dillon, MT. Please submit comments or questions on the proposal by March 31, 2006. For information on the project and to submit comments on the proposal, contact:

Patrick Plantenberg
Operating Permit Section Supervisor
Environmental Management Bureau

Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
(406) 444-4960 or e-mail at pplantenberg@mt.gov

Please send your invoice, affidavit of publication, and tear sheet to DEQ at the above address to the attention of Sue Fairchild. Please indicate that the bill applies to Doc # EMB 5036 109. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Patrick Plantenberg
Operating Permit Section Supervisor
Environmental Management Bureau

File 00013.37

regalpubnot.doc